

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /244 W

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P R 181730Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2148

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: INFORMAL MEETINGS GENEVA OCT 18 REVEALED  
GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TASKS OF INITIAL TNC MEETING BEGINNING  
OCT 24 AND ON NEED FOR ACTIVE WORK MTN WORK PROGRAM  
THEREAFTER. HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCES APPEAR TO EXIST  
IN PRESENT THINKING ON ORGANIZATION OF TNC SUB-GROUPS, IN  
PARTICULAR MECHANISM FOR DEALING WITH AGRICULTURE. END SUMMARY.  
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1. TWO INFORMAL MEETINGS HELD UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP DG LONG OCT 18 IN PREPARATION FOR OPENING MEETING OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE (TNC) BEGINNING OCT 24. MORNING MEETING INVOLVED US, EC, JAPAN; AFTERNOON SESSION INVOLVED ABOUT DOZEN KEY DELEGATIONS INCLUDING LDCS.

2. AT BOTH MEETINGS U.S. (BRUNGART) RECALLED TOKYO MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT THAT INTENTION WAS TO CONCLUDE MTN BY END OF 1975 AND POINTED OUT THAT THIS WILL REQUIRE PROMPT START ON BROADEST POSSIBLE FRONT. MUCH USEFUL WORK CAN BE DONE EVEN BEFORE ALL COUNTRIES HAVE NECESSARY LEGISLATIVE MANDATES. WE WILL WANT INITIAL TNC MEETING TO ESTABLISH NECESSARY SUB-GROUPS TO GET WORK UNDERWAY, GIVE THEM AS MUCH GUIDANCE AS POSSIBLE, AND DRAW UP ACTIVE PROGRAM OF WORK FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR AND BEGINNING OF 1974. ALSO GAVE PRELIMINARY U.S. VIEWS ON TOPICS WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE IN INITIAL WORK PROGRAM, I.E. TARIFFS, SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, IMPORT DOCUMENTATION AND CONSULAR FORMALITIES, PACKAGING AND LABELLING, STANDARDS, TROPICAL PRODUCTS, LDC PROBLEMS, COMMODITIES, SAFEGUARDS, FRAMEWORK FOR CONDUCT OF WORLD TRADE. NOTED THAT OTHER SUBJECTS, SUCH AS SECTORS, COULD BE ADDED LATER.

3. EC (LUYTEN) EXPRESSED AGREEMENT ON ACTIVE PROGRAM OF WORK, BUT PUT STRESS ON CONTINUATION OF ACTIVITIES ALREADY STARTED AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF BASIC DOCUMENTATION AND ANALYSIS THAT WILL BE USEFUL FOR SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATING STAGE. WITH REGARD TO TNC SUB-STRUCTURE, SAID THAT WHILE EC POSITION NOT FIXED, PRESENT INCLINATION IS TO STICK TO DIVISION OF WORK THAT GATT HAS HAD UP TO NOW. HE DID NOT EXPLICITLY RPT EXPLICITLY MENTION DESIRE FOR AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE IN MORNING MEETING, BUT DID SO IN AFTERNOON MEETING. HE EXPLAINED AFTERWARD THAT HIS FAILURE TO DO SO AT MORNING MEETING HAD BEEN CRITICIZED BY MEMBER STATES. HE DID, HOWEVER, DISTINGUISH BETWEEN MAINTAINING SAME DIVISION OF WORK AND MAINTAINING EXISTING COMMITTEES AS SUCH. HE RECOGNIZED MANDATES AND MEMBERSHIP OF SOME PRESENT GROUPS MAY DISQUALIFY THEM AS TNC SUB-GROUPS. AGREED TO GROUP ON SAFEGUARDS AS CONTINUATION PAST WORK, BUT DESCRIBED ITS IMMEDIATE WORK PROGRAM AS PREPARATION FOR LATER NEGOTIATIONS. QUESTIONED U.S. TENTATIVE PROPOSAL FOR COMMODITY GROUP ON GROUND THIS WOULD GET US TO STAGE OF SECTOR WORK WHICH SHOULD BE HELD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN RESERVE FOR NEGOTIATING STAGE.

4. JAPAN (MIZOGUCHI) SAID JAPAN WOULD PREFER THREE GROUPS - TARIFFS, NTBS, AGRICULTURE - AND WOULD FAVOR USE OF EXISTING BODIES. HOWEVER, IF U.S. UNABLE ACCEPT AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, JAPAN COULD RELUCTANTLY AGREE TO COMMODITY SUB-GROUP IF IT LIMITED FOR TIME BEING TO AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES. (U.S. MADE IT CLEAR THIS IS NOT WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND). AGREED TO IDEA OF SAFEGUARDS

GROUP, BUT SUGGESTED REAL SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WOULD COME AT LATER STAGE. SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF PRIORITY LIST OF NTBS, POINT WHICH LONG SUBSEQUENTLY PICKED UP AND STRESSED.

5. LONG NOTED THAT TNC WOULD BE LARGE AND UNWIELDY. AT MEETING OF BIG THREE, STATED ADDITIONAL SUCH RESTRICTED MEETINGS COULD BE HELD AS NECESSARY. ALSO SUGGESTED HAVING INFORMAL STEERING GROUP CONSISTING OF ABOUT 7 DCS AND 7 LDCS.

6. CANADIANS CONTESTED US, EC, JAPANESE VIEW THAT SECTOR WORK SHOULD COME AT LATER STAGE AND URGED IMMEDIATE CREATION OF SECTORS GROUP TO CARRY OUT TOKYO DECLARATION. RE NTBS, SUGGESTED GROUPS ON QUOTA RESTRICTIONS, REVISION OF ANTI-DUMPING CODE, AND PERHAPS VALUATION AS ADDITIONS TO TOPICS SUGGESTED BY U.S. (U.S. NOTED WE DID FAVOR WORK ON QRS BUT THOUGHT MIGHT BEST BE IN CONTEXT WORK ON SAFEGUARDS). CANADA ALSO SUGGESTED 3-4 WEEKS WOULD BE NECESSARY AFTER TNC TO PREPARE FOR SUB-GROUP MEETINGS. ON AGRICULTURE, CANADA SAID THERE IS PRESSING NEED FOR FORUM FOR PROPOSALS BUT OPEN-MINDED ON NATURE OF GROUP. ON SUBSTANCE, STRESS SHOULD BE ON ACCESS.

7. INDIA (SUPPORTED BY BRAZIL) SAID LDCS WANT THEIR PROBLEMS CONSIDERED IN ALL GROUPS, NOT SHUNTED OFF TO QUOTE ANOTHER ROOM UNQUOTE. SUPPORTED U.S. LIST OF ACTIVITIES, SUGGESTING IN ADDITION CONTINUING ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY BENEFITS TO LDCS OF MTN AND STUDY OF IMPLICATIONS OF MTN FOR GENERALIZED PREFERENCES.

8. AUSTRALIA SUGGESTED RELATIONS WITH CENTRALLY PLANNED ECONOMIES AS POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL SUBJECT. AUSTRALIA ALSO EXPRESSED VIEW ALL TNC SUB-GROUPS SHOULD DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURE AS WELL AS INDUSTRY, BUT THIS COMMENT WAS NOT PURSUED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS.

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